

REPORT OF THE CAREGIVERS OF WOLFEBORO

The objective of the health care system today is to keep elderly and ill people in their homes as long as possible. To that goal Caregivers of the Wolfeboro area serves a vital role. We work closely with the VNA, Huggins Hospital, RSVP, Service Link, etc., for the benefit of mutual clients. Analysis of our statistics reveals that on every working day in 2006, we provided a service to more than 5 clients. This is up just over 4 in 2005. The greatest need is for transportation. We are participating in a federally funded study of transportation needs.

We cannot provide any service if people do not know we're there. To that end we provide articles for the newspapers and an unpaid ad runs regularly. We provide speakers for community groups, churches, Rotary and other organizations requesting this. (Of course we seek volunteers at the same time).

With the increase in the number of people being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, a brief information workshop was provided for volunteers. This was very helpful for just every day working with people.

The revised advance directives forms are now being used in the monthly sessions we have been providing since the law was passed in 1991. This relatively small program is an important community service.

This is the 20th year for Caregivers of the Wolfeboro area. We have seen many changes. Calls have increased from roughly 3 per week in 1987 to sometimes as many as 10-12 per day in 2006. Vehicles used are no longer just sedans, but now include large and small SUV's and trucks. Together these vehicles traveled over 54,000 miles in 2006, 481 miles on behalf of Alton residents.

Of the 5067 total hours worked in the name of Caregivers, 231 were by dedicated Alton volunteers providing services to Alton residents. These wonderful volunteers are the backbone of the program.

Caregivers of Wolfeboro Area is People Helping People.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley A. Bentley
Coordinator